

WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL AMENDMENT MEMO

2001 Senate Bill 463

Senate Substitute Amendment 2

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2001 Senate Bill 463 (SB 463) is a legislative redistricting plan, based on the results of the 2000 U.S. Census. The bill maintains the number of Assembly districts at 99 and Senate districts at 33. All of the Assembly districts created in the bill are bounded by county, town or ward boundaries. Also, in accordance with the state constitution, no Assembly district is divided in the creation of a Senate district. Under the bill, county and municipal boundaries and wards used to create legislative districts are the boundaries and wards that were in effect on August 1, 2001. The boundaries do not account for any municipal annexation, detachment or consolidation after that date.

SB 463 requires the Legislative Reference Bureau, in enrolling any redistricting plan that has passed both houses of the Legislature, to attach an updated appendix that includes specified information about the plan, including the population statistics for the legislative districts created and various maps.

Under current law, legislative districts must be substantially equal in population. Based on the state's 2000 Census population, the ideal Assembly district will have 54,179 inhabitants, and the ideal Senate district will have 162,536.

Under SB 463, the overall range in deviation in Assembly districts is \pm 968 persons or \pm 1.79%, and the overall range in deviation in Senate districts is \pm 2,028 persons or \pm 1.25%.

Senate Substitute Amendment 2 (SSA 2) reduces the number of county and municipal splits among two or more Assembly districts that occur in SB 463. As examples, in SSA 2, all of Waushara County is in the 41st Assembly District, while in SB 463, the county is split between the 41st and 71st Assembly Districts. In SSA 2, Kenosha County is split among three Assembly districts, rather than five in the bill. SSA 2 reduces by about half the number of split municipalities in Waukesha County.

SSA 2 also increases by over 3,000 people the non-Hispanic minority population in the proposed $17^{\rm th}$ Assembly District, which is an African-American influence district.

SSA 2 has an overall range in deviation of $\pm 1,061$ persons or $\pm 1.96\%$ for Assembly districts and an overall range in deviation of $\pm 1,516$ persons or $\pm 0.93\%$ for Senate districts.

The Senate Organization Committee recommended passage of SB 463 by a vote of Ayes, 3; Noes, 2, on March 6, 2002. SSA 2 was introduced by Senators Risser, Chvala and Moen and adopted by the Senate on a vote of Ayes, 17; Noes, 16, on March 7, 2002. The Senate then passed SB 463, as amended, on a vote of Ayes, 17; Noes, 16. The bill was immediately messaged to the Assembly.

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